

Binary Indexed Trees

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1 Introduction to Range Queries

Range Queries is a very common type of problem that is often seen at the Gold and Platinum levels. They often involve the use of data structures. Here is a very basic range queries problem:

You are given an array of length N ($1 \leq N \leq 100000$) integers. Then, you are given N queries. There are two types of queries:

1. Given two integers i and j , change the i th number in the array to j .
2. Given an integer l and r , output the sum of the numbers between the l th and r th numbers in the array.

2 Introduction to Binary Indexed Trees

A Binary Index Tree (BIT), also known as a Fenwick Tree, is used for range sums (usually). Namely, a BIT can do element updates and prefix sums ($a[1] + a[2] + \dots + a[i]$; we one-index BITs for implementation-specific reasons) in $O(\log n)$. This is a tradeoff between a $O(n)$ update/ $O(1)$ query prefix-sum solution and the $O(1)$ update/ $O(n)$ query naive solution.

BITs are very useful, especially for their simple implementation.

3 BITs

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|----|---|-----|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 4 | 6 | -2 | 3 | -10 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 12 | 4 | 1 | -1 | 6 | 5 | 2 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |

Figure 1: A sample array.

BITs rely on the idea that an integer can be decomposed into powers of two. Given an index i , we can find these powers of two by writing i in binary. Then, we keep turning off the lowest bit until we reach zero. Say we want to find the prefix sum $a[1] + a[2] + \dots + a[14]$:

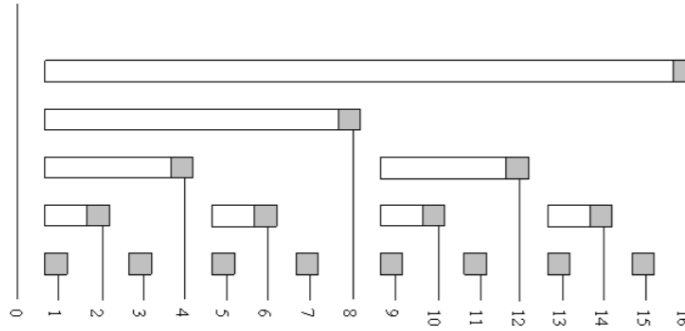
$$14 \rightarrow 1110 \rightarrow 1100 \rightarrow 1000 \rightarrow 0$$

How do we find the prefix sum with this?

Say we just went from $1110 \rightarrow 1100$. We just jumped from index $14 \rightarrow 12$. We can add the elements with indices 13 and 14 to a running sum, then recur on 12:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 1110 & (14) & \xrightarrow{\text{add } a[13]+a[14]} & 1100 & (12) & \xrightarrow{\text{add } a[9]+\dots+a[12]} & 1000 & (8) & \xrightarrow{\text{add } a[1]+\dots+a[8]} & 0 \end{array}$$

Notice that every “step” (1110, 1100, and 1000), there’s a unique range of indices denoted. That is, 1110 uniquely denotes indices 1101 and 1110, or all numbers between the 1110 and $1 + (1110 \text{ with the bottom bit removed})$. So we can map every number to a range of indices, and store the sum beforehand; 1110 stores $a[13] + a[14]$. See the illustration below.



3.1 Query

We discussed query above. But how do we find the lowest bit?

Taking advantage of the two's complement system ($-1 = 1\dots1111_2$, $-2 = 1\dots1110_2$ and so on), we can do this very easily. Say we're using $14 = 1110_2$. $-14 = 0010_2$ (with a bunch of ones in front). If we bitwise AND these two together, we get only the lowest bit set. This holds true in a general sense: let $i = (a1b)_2$, where a and b are parts of the binary number, and the one represents the lowest bit set. Then the negative is as follows: $-i = \sim(a1b)_2 + 1 = \sim a 0 \sim b + 1$. But b must consist of only zeros, since it's after the lowest set bit. Therefore $\sim b + 1 = 100\dots$. Thus, we get $-i = (\sim a 1 b)_2$. Bitwise AND-ing with i , we clearly see that only the lowest bit is set.

A C++ implementation is shown below.

```
int query(int i) {
    int ans = 0;
    for (; i > 0; i -= (i & -i))
        ans += a[i];
    return ans;
}
```

Clearly, to do range queries, we can subtract in the same way we do with regular prefix sums:

```
int range(int i, int j) {
    return query(j) - (i > 1 ? query(i - 1) : 0);
}
```

3.2 Update

To update (add a value v) at a given index i , we want to add the value to all segments "above" i . Here I mean "above" in the sense of the diagram above – all segments that contain i .

Let's take 9. The sequence for segments "above" 9 is:

$$9 \ (1001) \rightarrow 10 \ (1010) \rightarrow 12 \ (1100) \rightarrow 16 \ (10000).$$

Notice that we're simply adding the lowest bit every time (why?). Then for each index we visit, we add v to the value at this segment. Thus, the implementation is quite similar to query.

```
int update(int i, int v) {
    for (; i <= N; i += (i & -i))
        a[i] += v;
}
```

Note that for both update and query, we're only going through each bit once. Thus, the complexity is $O(\log n)$.

3.2.1 Range Updates

Range updates, where we add some number to all elements on $[l, r]$ are a bit more involved, but can also be done in $O(\log n)$. The idea is to keep two BITs. Remember, we one-index BITs.

Let's say we want to find a given prefix sum to index i (to find the range sum we can still subtract the prefix sums). To do this, we find all ranges that begin before i . Then, the answer is:

$$\sum_{\text{ranges}} \max(i, r) * v - (l - 1) * v$$

where r is the right endpoint of a given range, l is the left, and v is the value. To calculate this, we can use two BITs. `BIT1.query(w)` will give the value of $a[w]$.

We will use `BIT1.query(w)*w` as a starting point for the prefix sum. There are two errors to account for:

- The range does not start at index 1. `BIT1.query(w)*w` assumes the active ranges start from 1. Update 3 fixes this.
- The range started and ended before w . `BIT1.query(w)*w` does not include any contribution from that range. Update 4 fixes this.

Specifically, here's how we'd update:

1. `BIT1.update(l, v)`. All queries of BIT1 after (and including) l need to increase by v .
2. `BIT1.update(r+1, -v)`. Queries of BIT1 past r should not be affected by this new interval. This cancels out Update 1 for everything past r .
3. `BIT2.update(l, -(l-1)*v)`. `BIT1.query(w)*w` assumed the range started at 1. We subtract out $(l-1)*v$, the exact amount `BIT1.query(w)*w` over counted.
4. `BIT2.update(r+1, r*v)`. The proper value from this range is $(r - l + 1) * v$. To cancel update 3 and give the proper value add $r * v$ because $r * v - (l - 1) * v = (r - l + 1) * v$.

To query $a[1] + \dots + a[w]$: `BIT1.query(w)*w + BIT2.query(w)`. We can initialize the BITs by using a size 1 range update for every initial value. This is still $O(n \log n)$ construction time.

4 Problems

1. (Sleepy Cow Sorting, USACO Gold January 2019) You are given a sequence of numbers numbered from 1 to N ($1 \leq N \leq 10000$). You want to sort the numbers by shifting the first number in the sequence some distance D each move. Find the sequence of D s such that the number of moves is minimized.
2. You're given n ($1 \leq n \leq 10^5$) horizontal line segments, each with inclusive endpoints (x_1, y) and (x_2, y) where $-10^9 \leq x_1 \leq x_2 \leq 10^9$. Each line segment has a value v ($-10^9 \leq v \leq 10^9$).
Answer each of q ($1 \leq q \leq 10^5$) queries. Each query is of the form x', a, b , and asks you to sum the values of the a -th to the b -th (sorted by increasing y) line segments at the vertical line $x = x'$.
3. (Brian Dean, 2012) FJ has set up a cow race with N ($1 \leq N \leq 100,000$) cows running L laps around a circular track of length C ($1 \leq L, C \leq 25,000$). The cows all start at the same point on the track and run at different speeds, with the race ending when the fastest cow has run the total distance of $L * C$. FJ notices several occurrences of one cow overtaking another. Count the total number of crossing events during the entire race.
4. (Brian Dean, 2011) Farmer John has lined up his N ($1 \leq N \leq 100,000$) cows each with height H_i ($1 \leq H_i \leq 1,000,000,000$) to take a picture of a contiguous subsequence of the cows, such that the median height is at least a certain threshold X ($1 \leq X \leq 1,000,000,000$). Count the number of possible subsequences.
5. (SPOJ BRCKTS) Given a bracket expression of length N ($1 \leq N \leq 30,000$), process M operations. There are two types of operations, a replacement, which changes the i -th bracket into its opposite, and a check, which determines whether a bracket expression is correct.

5 Extra

Here is a really nice tutorial if you are still unclear about how BIT works. It also has example code.

<https://www.hackerearth.com/practice/notes/binary-indexed-tree-or-fenwick-tree/>